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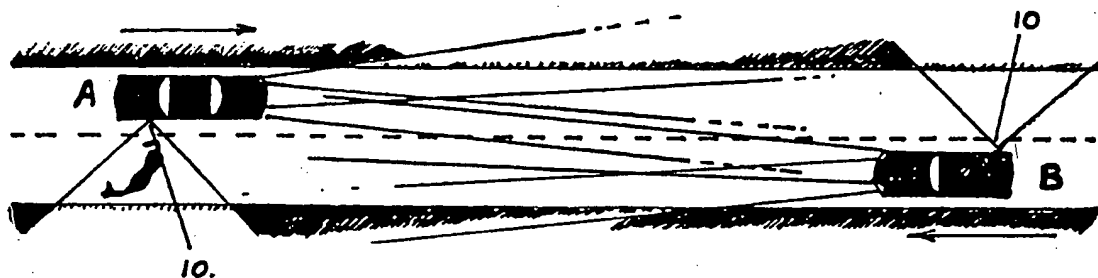
(56) Documents cited
GB 0857742 GB 0395934 GB 0257140
GB 0608709 GB 0310057

(58) Field of search
F4R

(54) Lateral lamps on road vehicles

(57) A lamp or lamps 10 which is built in or attached to road vehicles directed in such a way as to provide illumination to the roadway on any side of the vehicle to aid an approaching driver's view of the road ahead. The lamps to be designed or arranged to give illumination to the road. IE, short range wide angle. Switching to be manual by the driver or automatic from light sensitive switch on front of vehicle.

Fig 1



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Fig 1

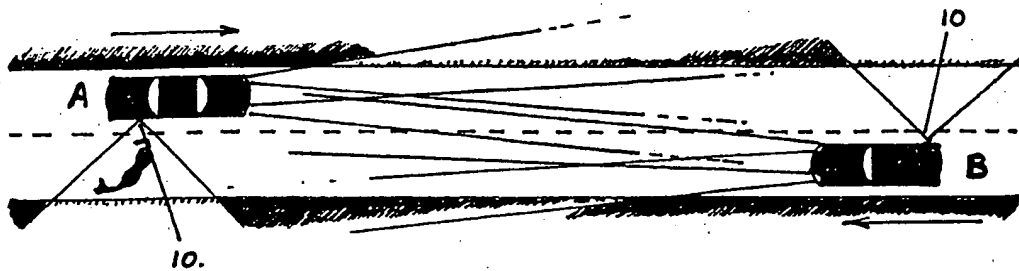


Fig 2

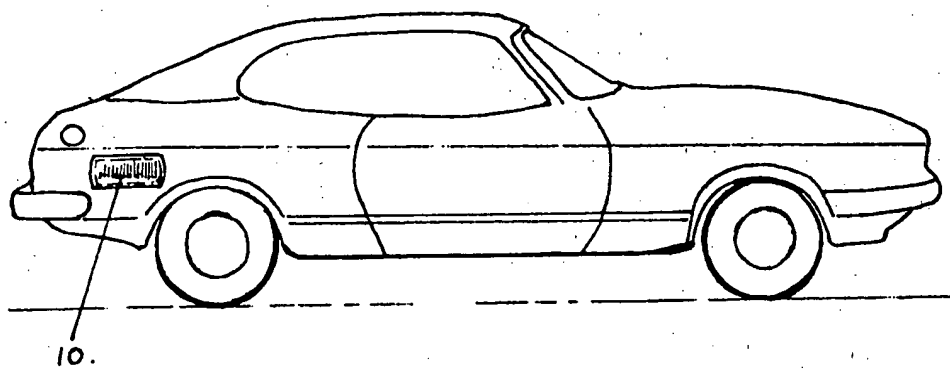
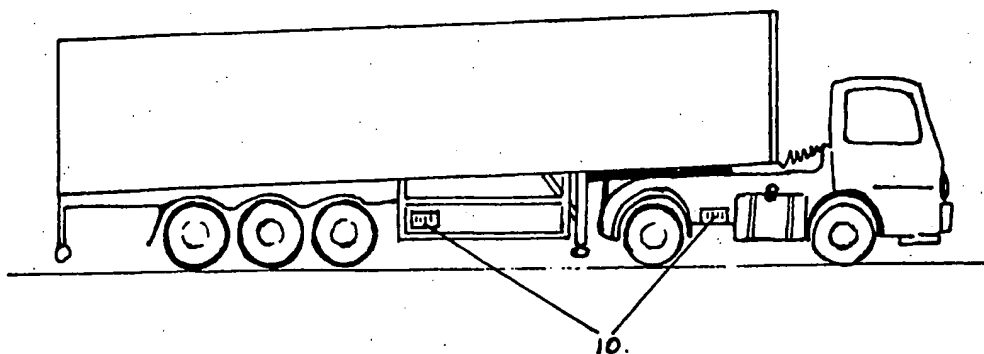


Fig 3



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SPECIFICATION

Lateral lamps for road vehicles

- 5 This invention relates to the fitting of lateral lamps to road vehicles.

It is well known that drivers of vehicles approaching each other at night with dipped headlamps drive into an area of road that is so badly lit, partly due to glare, that dark objects ahead of the drivers are difficult, if not impossible, to see. The number of accidents caused by this problem is far too high.

This invention provides for the means of illuminating the road, road verge, ahead of drivers. This would be done by building, converting, or adapting road using vehicles with a lamp or lamps fixed to the side, the roof, the underside or the rear of the vehicle or any other part of the vehicle, pointing to the side. The particular side to be illuminated would depend on the country in which the vehicle is being used. In Great Britain the right-hand side would be illuminated. Vehicles being produced for world markets would be fitted with lamps on both sides to illuminate one or the other side according to country of use.

The lateral lamp design is ideally of the low, wide-beam type, similar to the fog lamp, so as to have as much spread as possible to have maximum effect in a narrow road. Two or more lamps could be fitted especially on a long vehicle. The operation of the lamps would be controlled either from the vehicles mainbeam/dipped headlight switch system, from a light sensitive switch mounted on the front of the vehicle, or any other manually operated switch.

A specific embodiment of the invention will now be described by way of example with reference to the accompanying drawing in which:—

Figure 1 shows in perspective and in plan two vehicles approaching each other. Car A is seen illuminating an animal standing in the road as its lateral lamp 10 sweeps the road for car B. Car B's lateral lamp 10 illuminates the road, which is clear for car A.

Figure 2 shows the lateral lamp 10 in position on the side of the car.

Figure 3 shows two lateral lamps 10 in position on an articulated lorry.

Referring to the drawing, the "lateral lamp" comprises of a lamp fitted to the side of a motor-vehicle (eg. the domestic motor car shown in Fig. 2). The lamp would be inserted (permanently attached or otherwise) into a recess in the side of the vehicle and would fit flush with the contour of the vehicle's body; alternatively, the lamp could be fitted as an "extra" by means of a bracket connecting the lamp to any part of the vehicle pointing to the side of the vehicle. However, the essence of the present invention is the connection of a suitable lamp to any convenient point on all

motor vehicles so as to illuminate the area (as widely as possible) to either side of the vehicle for the benefit of the drivers of oncoming vehicles. The lamps would be fitted in such a position so as not to infringe statutory regulations relating to the construction and use of motor vehicles.

CLAIMS

- 75 1. A vehicle attached or built in to a road vehicle, directed in such a way as to provide illumination at night or in periods of poor visibility to the roadway to aid an approaching driver or rider's view.
- 80 2. A lamp as claimed in Claim 1) wherein the lamp is controlled by switching from the vehicles dip switch, other manually operated switches or switched by a light sensitive switch mounted to the front of the vehicle.
- 85 3. A lamp as claimed in Claim 1) or Claim 2) wherein the lamp would be designed or arranged to give illumination to the road, short range wide angle.
- 90 4. A lamp is claimed in Claim 1) or Claim 2) or Claim 3) wherein any number of lamps could be attached or built in to a road vehicle to illuminate the roadway on any side.
- 95 5. A lamp substantially as described herein with reference to Figs. 1–3 of the accompanying drawing.

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